MINUTES

of the

Lutheran Brotherhood

of the

Evangelical Lutheran Synod Of Nebraska

of the

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Held in

First Lutheran Church

SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NEBRASKA

April 20, 1946

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MINUTES

OF THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

of the

Nebraska Synodical

LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD

Held in

First Lutheran Church, South Sioux City, Nebraska

April 29, 1946

Rev. J. Ernest Messer, Pastor

The Twenty-ninth Annual Convention of the Nebraska Synodical Brotherhood convened in First Lutheran Church, 21st and "A" Street South Sioux City, Nebraska, the Rev. J. Ernest Messer Pastor, on Monday afternoon, April 29, 1946, at three o'clock.

Rev. A. H. Pinkhall, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Omaha, led the opening devotions. The convention was formally opened by the President, Wm. F. Kedde.

The President appointed the following committees:

Nominations: Rev. R. R. Pfeiffer, Emerson, Chairman.
W. H. Hasebrook, West Point.
A. C. Nodean, Omaha.

President's Report: Rev. T. J. C. Schuldt, Wayne, Chairman.
Wm. Fegley, West Point.
A. V. Bonderson, Emerson.

Resolutions: Walter Kuenning, Auburn, Chairman.
O. L. Sturtevant, Lincoln.
Harm Kruse, Columbus.

Auditing: O. G. Nelson, Wayne, Chairman.
Rollie Long, Wayne.

President Kedde gave his annual report.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1945-1946.

To the officers, delegates and members of the Nebraska Synodical Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church in America at their 29th Convention in First Lutheran Church, South Sioux City, Nebraska.

Brethren in Christ:

The year which has passed was filled with joy and sorrow. Joy, because the Lord has answered our prayers, by granting peace after several years of war. Sorrow, because many of our loved ones and brethren in the faith, did not return from the battlefields all over this World, others who did return were maimed for life, by permanent injuries and some by loss of their faith in God. Thankful we can be for those who returned, strengthened in the Love of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Master, however, the last named group is far in the minority.

It behooves us as Christian men, members of the Brotherhood to reach out and be a help, by the Grace of God, to those who need to be brought back again into the fellowship of the Saints. Therefore, may I ask, what is and has been done by us as individuals or a group? Did we help them as we promised as followers of Christ? Let us examine ourselves, and if we have failed in the past year, pray for strength and guidance to do our part in the days to come.

We have experienced in the year gone by, a greater desire for Unity of all Lutheran bodies in our Land. This has been proven by the meetings and conferences held, in which leading Laymen of the three large Lutheran groups have made the declaration of closer co-operation and coordination, and have assumed the name of "Lutheran Men of America." The first meeting was held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on July 15, 1945, with five laymen of each group present, later several other meetings, with many more in attendance.

The outgrowth of this movement has been the uniform devotional topics for the Brotherhood meeting discussions, for the year 1947.

Group meetings for the Pastors, such as Lutheran Seminars, held in all principal cities of our Land, and for the Laymen, District rallies for the Brotherhoods. The results and success of these meetings are up to us, the members of the Brotherhood, if we will go in the Spirit, as was expressed by Dr. O. P. Kretzman, President of the Valparaiso University, Missouri Synod, "The Lutheran Men of the United States" are on the march. With God's blessing, we are looking for great things from "Lutheran Men in America."

Lutheran World Action is at present foremost in the minds of all Lutherans in this Country and Canada. The question is, are we able to raise ten (10) million dollars for the years 1946-47, this should be answered by our gifts and the support as the men of the Church. It behooves us, therefore, in the strength of our God, to put our influence, material and spiritual backing to this appeal for relief of the suffering brethren in all the war torn countries, and the Missions without spiritual leadership.

At the convention of last year, the question of giving financial support to the Western Seminary Retreat, at which time young men

are invited to have presented to them the Gospel Ministry, was referred back to the Executive Committee for further study. Your president wishes to report, that it was found worthy of our support and financial help was given.

We have at the writing of this report, fifteen (15) men's organizations in our Synod, while several Pastor's have made known to us that organizations are in the making in their congregations. Our prayer is, when we have to make our Synodical report to the Convention of the Brotherhood of the U.L.C.A. this Fall, we may be able to give an increased membership and not a decrease, as had to be done at the last two conventions of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood.

Further, may I urge our membership for a greater use of the official magazine "Lutheran Men," which, by all denominations is considered the best Christian Men's paper, and does not have a very large subscription list.

Have visited many of the Brotherhoods in our State during the year gone by, trying to instill a greater loyalty and zeal for the work of the Kingdom. Our prayer is for more activities in those organizations who are standing still and lying dormant at the present time.

Our personal thanks to Pastor's, officers and laymen in the Nebraska Synod for their help and prayers. May we go forward in the conviction of our faith, that God is our help through Jesus Christ our Lord.

May the Lord, bless us and keep us in the years to come. Strengthen the men of the Church in the work assigned to them by the Head of the Church, Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Unto the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be Glory, Honor and Power for Ever and Ever.

Recommendations:

1. That Pastor's of all congregations in the Nebraska Synod, be asked for observing the Third Sunday in October as Brotherhood Sunday, which was originated by the Lutheran Brotherhood, and at present is a part of the Worship service on that date in many other denominations.

2. The wholehearted support of the Brotherhoods of our Synod to Lutheran World Action.

3. That the Minutes and Reports of the 29th Annual Convention be printed in the Minutes of Synod.

4. That we express our thanks to the Executive Committee of the Nebraska Synod, for giving us added time for our convention.

Respectfully Submitted,

WM. F. KEDDE, President

The Secretary, Arthur R. Johansen, read the Minutes of the previous Annual Convention, and the Minutes of four Executive Committee meetings, held in Wayne, Auburn, Lincoln and South Sioux City.

Treasurer, Ben Meyer, presented his annual report, which was received with the Auditing Commmittee's report and placed on file.

Sixteen Brotherhoods responded to Roll Call, each reporting on their activities, which were very interesting, showing what they do in their meetings.

The following report of the committee on President's Report was given by Rev. T. J. C. Schuldt:

COMMITTEE ON PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Your committee has studied with interest the President's Report. It is noted that our President has shown particular interest in the following subjects: the welcoming of returned service men into the fellowship of the church; Lutheran Unity; Lutheran World Action; the Western Seminary Retreat; the number of men's organizations; and subscriptions to "Lutheran Men." The active concern which he has indicated, not only in his formal report but in the vigorous manner with which he has fulfilled his office during the year, bespeak the devotion and vision which characterize his leadership as our President, territorial Key-Man and member of the Executive Committee of the national organization. It is our observation that the recommendations are but the natural expression of his enthusiasm and vision and worthy of your favorable consideration.

Recommendation

It is recommended that we show our appreciation to President Kedde with a rising vote of thanks.

(Signed)

THEODORE J. C. SCHULDT, Chairman.
WILLIAM J. FEGLEY
A. V. BONDERSON

Motion carried to adopt the report of the Committee on President's Report.

The report of the Nominating Committee was given by Rev. R. R. Pfeiffer. The present officers were nominated for re-election: President, Wm. F. Kedde, Omaha; Vice-President, Wm. J. Rogge, Auburn; Secretary, Arthur R. Johansen, South Sioux City; Treasurer, Ben Meyer, Wayne.

A motion, carried, that nominations be closed and Rev. R. R. Pfeiffer cast the unanimous vote for the present officers.

President Kedde read a letter from Mr. Earle W. Bader, Executive Secretary of the Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church in America.

A short report on Boy Scout work was given by Rev. F. L. Cress.

Rev. Karl Gigstad reported on the proposed changes in the constitution to read as follows:

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

A. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the officers and one layman and one Pastor appointed. The Executive Committee shall have charge of the affairs of the organization between meetings; prepare the program of each meeting and through the Secretary, notify each Brotherhood and Pastor as to time and place of the meeting.

B. There shall be a Nominating Committee appointed by the President whose duties shall be to present the names of nominees for each office at the annual meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor.

ARTICLES VI. ELECTIONS

The officers shall be elected by ballot at the Annual meeting and may serve for one year, or until their successors shall have been elected. No officer shall serve any one office more than three (3) consecutive terms.

Motion, carried to have these articles replace the present articles in the Constitution, since this was the second reading.

President Kedde, reported that the president of the Nebraska Synodical Brotherhood is an ex-officio Board Member of Midland Assembly, and financial help in the amount of five (5) dollars was granted to the Assembly.

Dr. Thomas Rinde, Dean of Western Seminary, reported on the Life Service Retreat of the Western Seminary, giving the expenses incurred in this Retreat for young men considering the Ministry.

Motion, carried, to make the Life Service Retreat, an annual project of the Synodical Brotherhood, Spiritually in our Prayers, and financially with support of twenty-five (25) dollars per year for the lifetime of this Retreat.

Dr. J. C. Hershey, President of the Nebraska Synod, brought the greetings of Synod.

Mr. Arthur R. Johansen, brought the greetings of the Brotherhood and the congregation of First Lutheran Church, inasmuch as Rev. J. Ernest Messer, Pastor loci was unable to be present, due to illness.

President Kedde was elected official delegate to the convention of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood, the second delegate to be elected by the Executive Committee.

Motion, carried, that delegates to the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood Con-

vention, are instructed to vote against the proposal of dues by President Speckman, as found on page eight (8) of "Lutheran Men," issue of April, 1946.

Attention was called to the fact, that the Seventy-fifth Anniversary Committee of the Nebraska Synod, will propose to the convention of Synod: "That a banquet be held at the next meeting of Synod in commemoration of our seventy-fifth anniversary."

Motion, carried, that the Brotherhood Executive Committee, get together with the Executive Committee of Synod, in regards to the proposed seventy-fifth anniversary banquet, so there will be no conflicting or overlapping action with the annual Brotherhood banquet.

No other business being before this session of the convention, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Rev. John B. Rupley, Jr., York.

Brotherhood Banquet

The annual Brotherhood banquet was held in the Parish Hall of First Lutheran Church, April 29th at 6:45 p.m., and was opened by singing of the Brotherhood song, "The Cross And The Heart." The Invocation was given by Dr. W. A. Klink, West Point.

President Kedde, acting as toastmaster, announced a surprise package not on the program, two musical numbers by the Pastor's Quartet: Martin L. Dolbeer, Jr., G. Gieschen, Wm. F. Most and Henry J. Goede. It was of a comical nature, and very well received. Group singing was led by Rev. G. Gieschen, Omaha.

After all had eaten their fill on a very delicious dinner, an offering for the Boy Scout program of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood was received, and was announced to be $71.56.

Several musical numbers were given by the High School Quartet, due to the demand for encores.

President Dr. J. C. Hershey, installed the re-elected officers.

Mr. O. E. Schellberg, Omaha, Boy Scout Director for the Nebraska Synodical Brotherhood, gave a short report on his work.

Dr. Leland Lesher, Lincoln, introduced the speaker for the evening, Dr. C. F. Stickles, president of the Michigan Synod, who had chosen the subject: "The Six Objectives." While Dr. Stickles was a stranger to all of us, he made many friends by his forceful interpretation of the objectives.

The following Resolutions were presented by the Committee on Resolutions:

Resolutions

That we lift up our hearts in humble Thanksgiving to Almighty God, who in this first convention, following war and bloodshed, has permitted us the Christian fellowship and inspiration of this 29th Annual Meeting of the Brotherhood of the Synod of Nebraska in South Sioux City, April 29th, 1946.

That we express our appreciation to Rev. J. E. Messer, and to the congregation for inviting the Synodical Brotherhood to hold its Convention in their midst, and also to all who had any part in planning, preparing, and serving the splendid banquet.

That we thank the speaker, Dr. C. F. Stickles, President of Michigan Synod, for his splendid and inspiring messages, and also express our thanks to the Song Leader, Rev. G. Gieschen; the local talent, for their musical number; the Quartet for their numbers, and all who worked so faithfully for the success of this Convention.

We thank our faithful President, Mr. Wm. F. Kedde for his leadership, and his interest in the work of the Brotherhood, and to him and the other officers, may we lend a helping hand.

That a continued effort be made to have a more active Brotherhood, in every congregation, and that each Brotherhood be encouraged and urged to adopt, and put into practice all of the objectives of the Brotherhood.

That we lift our hearts in Thankfulness to Almighty God for the peace that has come in the past year, and that we pray, that the threatening clouds of war may be lifted, so that we may live in peace and harmony.

That the Brotherhood send to Rev. Messer, who is ill, a bouquet of flowers.

That we express our appreciation to Grace Lutheran Brotherhood of Lincoln, Nebraska, for donating the programs.

(Signed)

WALTER W. KUENNING
HARM KRUSE
O. L. STURTEVANT

A motion carried that the Resolutions be adopted.

The convention adjourned by singing three verses of the Hymn: "Now The Day Is Over," after which Rev. W. F. Most, Omaha, closed with prayer and benediction.

Respectfully Submitted,

(Signed)
ARTHUR R. JOHANSEN

REPORT OF THE TREASURER
OF THE NEBRASKA SYNODICAL BROTHERHOOD

Receipts

1945:		
Balance on hand, April 9	$95.74	
Offering at Convention Banquet	70.86	
1946:		
Jan. 3, Grace, West Point	12.50	
Jan. 8, Zion, Benedict	10.00	
Jan. 10, Immanuel, Hampton	8.00	
Jan. 16, St. Paul's, Wayne	12.50	
Jan. 24, Our Redeemer, Omaha	10.00	
Febr. 4, St. Luke's, Omaha	10.00	
Febr. 4, Grace, Lincoln	12.50	
Febr. 20, First, South Sioux City	10.00	
Mar. 28, United, Columbus	8.00	
Jan. 30. Cash	4.31	
Total Receipts		$274.41

Disbursements

1945:		
April 9, Complimentary Banquet Tickets	3.00	
April 14, Earle W. Bader,		
Banquet Offering	70.86	
Salem, Dakota City	3.00	
Synodical Dues	.50	
July 13 Envelopes	4.25	
Aug. 27, F. E. Wood, Printing Minutes	25.92	
Nov. 13, T. D. Rinde, Life Service Retreat	25.00	
1946:		
Jan. 17, Earle W. Bader, Dues for		
Grace, West Point	7.50	
Zion, Benedict	5.00	
Immanuel, Hampton	3.00	
St. Paul's, Wayne	7.50	
Synodical Dues	2.00	
Febr. 4, Earle W. Bader, Dues for		
St. Luke's Emerson	5.00	
Our Redeemer, Omaha	5.00	
St. Luke's, Omaha	5.00	
Grace, Lincoln	7.50	
Synodical Dues	2.00	
Mar. 30, Earle W. Bader, Dues for		
First, South Sioux City	5.00	
United, Columbus	3.00	
Synodical dues	1.00	
Total Disbursements		$191.03
Balance on hand, April 22, 1946		$ 83.38

BEN MEYER, Treasurer

Following communication was received:

Thank you all for the beautiful Hydrangea sent to the Parsonage. Its expression of fine fellowship gives one's morale a decided lift. Thanking you all again, I am

Fraternally yours,

(signed)
J. ERNEST MESSER